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O 101431Z JAN 08  
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7809  
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 8952  
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 8525  
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC 3001

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 000011

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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

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TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [ETRD](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS; SAO PAULO

"Democrat Fascination"

Center-right national circulation daily O Estado de S. Paulo (1/10) editorialized: "In addition to the natural impact of the dramatization of politics in the media, there are several factors combined to explain the unprecedented interest in the complicated process, especially because it seems focused on only one party, the Democratic, which has been in the opposition for eight years and now has everything to return to the White House in November.... What monopolizes the world's attention at the moment is the identity of the Democrat candidate, whose responsibility will be to restore the U.S. moral leadership that George W. Bush diligently dilapidated. The main reason for such a curiosity is the expectation that the president to be inaugurated in January 2009 will be what none of the predecessors was: either a woman, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, or an Afro American, Senator Barack Hussein Obama." White